CHRISTIAN POSTON III CHURCH

The Redeemer

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LET THE LOWER LIGHTS BE BURNING

One day many years ago, as night was approaching, a pilot on Lake Erie encountered a heavy storm. He knew that because of its severity it would be almost impossible for his ship to weather this great tempest. Feeling keenly his responsibility for the lives of his passengers and crew, he decided that his only safety lay in taking his ship into a safe harbor. The nearest was Cleveland, which was many miles away, with strong contrary winds blowing.

In those days the sailboats did not have steam or electric power as they have today, and their travel depended on handling the huge canvas sails properly. The pilot also knew that storms on Lake Erie are treacherous, and more lives had been lost on it than on any of the other Great Lakes, although it is one of the smallest. With the wind against him, he shaped his course in the direction of Cleveland. The night was dark, and waves were tossing his boat badly.

Finally he spied the lights of the lighthouse at Cleveland harbor flashing their signals. He knew what these meant. As he approached he could see the beams of light from the lighthouse, but there were no lower lights on the pier to guide him into the channel. In the darkness he tried to enter the harbor, but the waves caused him to miss it and his boat was dashed on the rocks and wrecked, and many lives were lost.

General blame for the shipwreck was placed on the watchman whose duty it was to place the lower lights on the pier, but who had neglected his duty that night, thinking that surely no sailor would try to enter the harbor on such a stormy night.

Philip E. Bliss saw in this a comparison to the professed religious world, and wrote the song, "Let the Lower Lights Be Burning"-comparing the light from the lighthouse to Christ, and the lower lights to the Christian world.

"Brightly beams our Father's mercy from his lighthouse evermore; but to us He gives the keeping of the lights along the shore." Bliss clearly states the meaning of this verse here; but the last verse brings a message to us as Christians, or professed Christians. Through his neglect of duty the watchman was responsible for many lives being lost. Through the neglect of prayer life, devotion, Christian living, attending church services, taking part in Sunday School or church work, and letting our light shine, souls may be lost--and who will be responsible?

Christ said: "Let your light so shine before men...."

--W. A. Bixler--

it was only....

It was only a thought, but a kindly thought
To restrain an unruly tongue.
An unkind word was left unsaid,
Its evil left undone.

It was only a word, but a friendly word
And it helped when a heart was sad;
Someone went singing on life's way
Because that word was said.

It was only a smile, but an honest smile
Coming straight from a friendly heart;
Its kindly warmth and sunny cheer
Bade gloom and hate depart.

It was only a deed, but a loving deed
And though small it accomplished much;
It proved a love to one who long
Had known no friendly touch.

It was only one life; but a Christian life;
It was placed in its God's own hand,
And who can tell the good it did
This side of Heaven's strand?

--L. Forinash--

THIS ISSUE OF THE REDEEMER IS DEDICATED TO ALL THOSE WHO HAVE LEFT US DURING THE PAST WEEK.

TESTIMONY

I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Philp. 3:14.

Many a time I've stopped to think of God's infinite love for each one of us. As I think of the various instances where God has revealed His love to me, I cannot help but be thankful unto God for sacrificing His son to die on the cross that I might be saved. There have been many trials and shortcomings in my life, but through these tests I have grown in my Christian life, and know that God is testing my faith. He has been with me in times of sorrow as well as in times of happiness. "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

Evacuation wasn't pleasant for anyone, but because of evacuation I have enjoyed many blessed experiences and fellowship with fellow Christians in Poston. This fellowship has truly been an inspiration and an uplift to my soul. Christian friends are so dear to us because we all love each other like brothers and sisters, for we are all working toward the same goal--Jesus Christ. I'm grateful to the Lord that I have this goal to work for--a goal where we shall be rewarded for our services. For what is life without a goal! It's my prayer that I shall be able to do my part for His cause.

In Him,
Tom Mukai

EXCERPTS - -

...Greetings from Philadelphia. I have been here quite some time, and have recently become a permanent resident of the Central Y. My associates are very kind and understanding for which I am indeed fortunate. And this feeling of brotherly love, I know, comes from the fact that they are all devoted followers of Jesus Christ. Together with the influencial people, the book (Abundant Living), and the Lord Jesus, I too shall endeavor to lead a life that is abundant.

Yours for His Service,
Nellie Nagano.

BOOKS BY DR. E. S. JONES

Orders are being accepted for books written by Dr. E. Stanley Jones at Church Office, 310-7-D.

The titles are as follows:

ABUNDANT LIVING
THE CHOICE BEFORE US
THE CHRIST OF THE INDIAN ROAD
THE CHRIST OF THE MOUNT
CHRIST AND HUMAN SUFFERING
THE CHRIST OF EVERY ROAD
CHRIST'S ALTERNATIVE TO COMMUNISM

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Third Christian Church of Poston wishes to acknowledge the special donations which were sent in by Dr. Gale Seaman, San Gabriel, Calif.; and Mickey Ichiuji, Denver, Colorado.

Pledges were received from the following former members of our congregation: Tsugi Ieiri, Kalamazoo, Mich.; Michiko Ishimoto, Toledo, Ohio; Louis Sakaguchi, Utah; Sod Nakashima, Cleveland, Ohio; Pvt. Frank Kimura, Camp Shelby, Miss.; Howard Takahashi, Utah; Ruth Iwami, Cleveland, Ohio; Florence Takahashi, Syracuse, N.Y.; and Margaret Ishino, Poston I.

FAREWELL . .

Many active church members have left us this past week for relocation and the armed forces. We will miss each one for their varied contributions and efforts in our Church.

David Arata, deacon, C.E. advisor, and Junior Church leader, who worked so faithfully behind the scenes to make each activity of the Church a success, has gone to join Sod and Harry in Cleveland.

Fudge and Smackie Hirashima, who left us for Detroit, were active in the Junior Church and as C. E. officers.

Popo Kaneyuki, who worked so untiringly on the many super-colosal singspirations, has taken his gay self to make merry with the rest of the fellows in Cleveland.

Cincinnati will be the more blessed with Lillian Wake, who has been a reliable member of the Choir and the Women's Trio, an officer in the Senior C. E., and who has served as reporter to THE REDEEMER; and with Mrs. Shiota & sons who are joining Mr. Jutaro Shiota there.

Paul Ichiuji, Senior C. E. president, suddenly felt the urge to join brother Mickey in Denver.

We welcomed back with gladness Lloyd Kurihara from Colorado; but in such a short while, he left us for Fort Logan to join the Army.

May God's will be done in the lives of each one of these beloved brothers and sisters in Christ.

PASS IT ON

Have you had a kindness shown?
Pass it on.
It was not given to you alone,
Pass it on.
Let it travel through the years;
Let it wipe another's tears;
Til in heaven the deed appears,
Pass it on.

Have you found the heavenly light?
Pass it on.
Souls are groping in the night,
Daylight gone.
Lift your lighted lamp on high,
Be a star in some one's sky,
He may live who else would die.
Pass it on. --SEL.